

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.-11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) An image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus for receiving, storing and reconstructing a coded image signal, which includes intra-frame coded image signals and inter-frame coded image signals, fed from an image signal transmitting apparatus for use in a communication environment in which errors are likely to occur, said apparatus comprising:

a storage and reconstruction control unit, which outputs an intra-frame request signal directing, in accordance with a request for storage, the image signal transmitting apparatus to ~~continuously transmit the~~ an intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded, and also outputs a storage start signal for carrying out a storage starting operation; and

a coded signal storage unit, which extracts, in accordance with the storage start signal, the information indicating the coding mode of the entirety of an image from the coded image signal transmitted from the image signal transmitting apparatus, and starts storing the coded image signal when it is detected that the input ~~coded-coding~~ image is ~~the onesaid~~ intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded, said coded signal storage unit subsequently storing inter-frame coded image signals transmitted from said image signal transmitting apparatus, thereby storing an initial intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded followed by inter-frame coded image signals for non-disturbed video reconstruction based on both intra-frame and inter-frame coded image signals.

13. (Previously Presented) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the intra-frame request signal is repetitively output at a predetermined interval, during the time in which the storing operation of the coded image signal is being carried out.

14. (Previously Presented) An image signal transmission apparatus for transmitting a coded image signal for use in a communication environment in which errors are likely to occur, said apparatus comprising:

an image coding unit for coding an input image signal and transmitting the thus coded image signal to an image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus; and

a coding control unit which receives an intra-frame request signal sent from the image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus and detects frequency of error occurrences, so as to control the frequency of the coded intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded, in accordance with the frequency of the intra-frame request signal and that of the error occurrences.

15. (Currently Amended) An image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus for receiving, storing and reproducing a coded image signal, which includes intra-frame coded image signals and inter-frame coded image signals, for use in a communication environment in which errors are likely to occur, said apparatus comprising:

a storage and reconstruction control unit, which transmits a reconstruction start signal directing the start of reconstruction of the coded image signal stored in a coded signal storage unit, in accordance with a request for reconstruction, and

an image decoding unit, which extracts, in accordance with the reconstruction start signal, ~~the~~ information indicating the coding mode of the entirety of an image from the coded image signal output from the coded signal storage unit, and starts reconstructing the coded image signal when it is detected that the input coding image is ~~the~~ one in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded so as initially decode an intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded and subsequently decode inter-frame coded image signals for non-disturbed video reconstruction based on both intra-frame and inter-frame coded image signals.

16. (Currently Amended) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

an image decoding unit decoding the coded image signal,

wherein said storage and reconstruction control unit directs said image decoding unit to start image reconstruction by decoding the intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded stored in said coded signal storage unit.

17. (Currently Amended) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said storage and reconstruction control unit requests the transmission of the intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame encoded from the image signal transmitting apparatus by temporarily closing a communication circuit used for transmitting the coded image signal.

18. (Previously Presented) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the information indicating the coding mode is extracted from header information.

19. (Previously Presented) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said header information is header information associated with the MPEG-4 standard.

20. (Currently Amended) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising:

a coded signal storage unit, which stores the coded image signal when said image decoding unit detects that the input ~~coding~~coded image is one in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame coded.

21. (Currently Amended) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said storage and reconstruction control unit requests the

transmission of the intra-frame coded image signal in which the entirety of an image is intra-frame encoded from the image signal transmitting apparatus by temporarily closing a communication circuit used for transmitting the coded image signal.

22. (Previously Presented) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the information indicating the coding mode is extracted from header information.

23. (Previously Presented) The image signal storage and reconstruction apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said header information is header information associated with the MPEG-4 standard.